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REPORT
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MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

APRIL 23 (legislative day, APRIL 9), 1991.—Ordered to be printed

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Mr. JOHNSTON, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 363]

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to which was referred the bill (S. 363) to authorize the addition of 15 acres to Morristown National Historical Park, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE MEASURE

The purpose of S. 363, as ordered reported, is to authorize the addition of approximately 15 acres to the Morristown National Historical Park in New Jersey.

BACKGROUND AND NEED

Morristown National Historical Park was established in 1933 to commemorate George Washington's military headquarters and the winter encampments of the Continental Army in 1777 and 1779–80. The park consists of four major noncontiguous areas: General Washington's headquarters, Fort Nonsense, the Jockey Hollow Encampment Area and the New Jersey Brigade Encampment Area.

S. 363 authorizes the addition of a 15-acre parcel in the Jockey Hollow Encampment Area. This area contains some of the best-preserved remains of the Continental Army's winter encampments.

The land to be added to the park pursuant to S. 363 is considered to have great archaeological potential and is expected to yield additional information about the winter encampments of the Army. The site contains the Primrose brook, along with a natural spring, which the Connecticut Brigades are believed to have used as pri-

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mary water sources for the camp. Because of the heavy troop activity on the site, the Park Service expects the site to provide an abundance of encampment artifacts.

Public Law 101-512, the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1991, appropriates $585,000 for acquisition of the 15-acre site.

Legislative History

S. 363 was introduced by Senators Bradley and Lautenberg on February 6, 1991. The Subcommittee on Public Lands, National Parks and Forests held a hearing on S. 363 on March 21, 1991. Similar legislation was introduced in the Senate late in the 101st Congress.

At the business meeting on April 18, 1991, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources ordered S. 363 favorably reported.

Committee Recommendations and Tabulation of Votes

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, in open business session on April 18, 1991, by a unanimous voice vote of a quorum present, recommends that the Senate pass S. 363 as described herein.

Summary of S. 363

S. 363 amends Public Law 88-601, as amended (16 U.S.C. 409g), which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire lands for addition to Morristown National Historical Park. The park's 1933 enabling Act provided for land acquisition only by donation; Public Law 88-601, as amended, is a free-standing law which authorizes the Secretary to acquire up to 600 acres for the park by purchase, donation, or otherwise. S. 363 simply increases the acreage limitation by 15 acres, for a total of 615 acres.

Cost and Budgetary Considerations

The Congressional Budget Office estimate of the costs of this measure has been requested but was not received at the time the report was filed. When the report is available, the Chairman will request it to be printed in the Congressional Record for the advice of the Senate.

Regulatory Impact Evaluation

In compliance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee makes the following evaluation of the regulatory impact which would be incurred in carrying out S. 363. The bill is not a regulatory measure in the sense of imposing Government-established standards or significant economic responsibilities on private individuals and businesses.

No personal information would be collected in administering the program. Therefore, there would be no impact on personal privacy.

Little, if any, additional paperwork would result from the enactment of S. 363, as ordered reported.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

The legislative report received by the Committee from the Department of the Interior setting forth the Administration's recommendations relating to S. 363 is set forth below:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, DC, April 11, 1991.

Hon. J. BENNETT JOHNSTON,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This responds to your request for our views on S. 363, "To authorize the addition of 15 acres to Morristown National Historical Park."

We support enactment of S. 363.

Morristown National Historical Park preserves the quarters for the Continental Army during two critical winters: 1777 and 1779–1780. S. 363 would raise the land acquisition ceiling at Morristown National Historical Park from 600 acres to 615 acres.

This new authorization would allow the addition of up to 15 acres of the Sterling North estate to the existing Jockey Hollow Unit of the Park. The Sterling North estate totals 26 acres and includes a residence. Only the northern area of the estate, to a maximum of 15 acres, is proposed for addition to the Park. The portion proposed to be added includes a spring and section of Primrose Brook, but does not include the residence. This area of the estate is adjacent to the existing boundary of the Jockey Hollow Unit and is in proximity to the encampment of the first and second Connecticut Brigades of the Continental Army, whose known encampment sites are now included in the Park. The proposed addition has high potential for archeological resources associated with the Connecticut Brigades.

In addition, current zoning allows subdivision of this area into five acre homesites, and development pressures on the area are intensifying as it becomes a commuting area for New York City.

The 1976 Master Plan for the Park concluded that where serious encroachments present themselves and other alternatives for protection are unavailable, legislation should be sought for acquisition authority to protect the Park setting.

Funds have been appropriated in fiscal year 1991 for this acquisition; available funds total $585,000. It is expected that acquisition could be completed within this figure. Operating costs will be minimal as the area will be maintained in its natural state.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

CONSTANCE B. HARRIMAN,
Assistant Secretary.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill S. 363, as ordered reported, are shown as follows (existing law pro-

posed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

AN ACT To authorize the addition of lands to Morristown National Historical Park in the State of New Jersey, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in order to preserve for the benefit and inspiration of the public certain lands historically associated with the winter encampment of General George Washington's Continental Army at Jockey Hollow in 1779 and 1780, and to facilitate the administration and interpretation of the Morristown National Historical Park, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to procure by purchase, donation, purchase with appropriated funds, or otherwise, not to exceed [600] *615* acres of land and interests therein which [600] *615* acres shall include Stark's Brigade campsite and other lands necessary for the proper administration and interpretation of the Morristown National Historical Park: *Provided,* That title to the property known as the Cross estate may not be accepted until the property is vacant.

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